

SECRET**PRIORITY**
OUT64932

1968 APR 26 16 16Z

SECRET 261556Z APR 68 CITE [REDACTED] 3584

PRIORITY [REDACTED] INFO [REDACTED]

SUBJ: BRAND X PROCESSING EVALUATION

REF: [REDACTED] 7527, DATED 2 APRIL 1968

1. THE TEST MATERIALS FROM MISSION 6140 FLOWN ON 6 MARCH 1968 WERE FORWARDED TO NPIC FOR AN IMAGE QUALITY COMPARISON BETWEEN THE NEGATIVES PROCESSED IN BRAND X CHEMISTRY AND MX578 CHEMISTRY. TWO ROLLS OF NEGATIVES AND THREE ROLLS OF DUPLICATE POSITIVES WERE RECEIVED.

2. THE FIRST PART OF THE MISSION (FRAMES 1 THRU 229) WAS PROCESSED IN MX578 AND WAS DUAL PRINTED (A LIGHT PRINT AND A DARK PRINT). THE REMAINDER OF THE MISSION (FRAMES 230 THRU 611) WAS PROCESSED IN BRAND X AND A SINGLE PRINT WAS MADE.

3. THE TYPE OF CAMERA AND VEHICLE USED DURING THIS TEST IS NOT KNOWN, THEREFORE, SYSTEM ANOMALIES CANNOT BE DEFINED.

4. SEVERAL FRAMES CONTAINING IDENTICAL IMAGERY WERE SELECTED FROM THE BRAND X PORTION AND THE MX578 PORTION OF THE MISSION. AFTER COMPAIRING THESE FRAMES, IT WAS DECIDED NOT TO CONDUCT A NORMAL PI EVALUATION BECAUSE OF OBVIOUS SCALE AND ACUITY DIFFERENCES NOT RELATED TO PROCESSING WHICH WOULD TEND TO

SECURITY	
TEST	✓
PSG/OC	
RED	
REPRO	
AID	
IEG	
PROD	
SCIEN	
WEST	
EAST	
M2S	25X1
PGM	
IAG	
DIA-X74	
SPAR	
[REDACTED]	25X1

PAGE 2 [REDACTED] 3584 SECRET
PREJUDICE PI FINDINGS.

5. THE NEGATIVES WERE EVALUATED BY PYOTO TECHNOLOGISTS AND THE FOLLOWING GENERALIZATIONS WERE FORMED:

A. BETTER TONAL SEPARATION IS APPARENT IN THE MORE DENSE (HIGHLIGHT) AREAS OF THE MATERIAL PROCESSED IN BRAND X CHEMISTRY. DETECTION OF DETAIL IN THE LESS DENSE (SHADOW) AREAS IS COMPARABLE.

B. EXCLUDING UNDEFINED VEHICLE AND/OR CAMERA INDUCED DEGRADATIONS, THE OVERALL IMAGE QUALITY OF THE TWO RECORDS IS COMPARABLE.

C. DUAL PRINTING IS LESS LIKELY TO BE NEEDED WHEN BRAND X CHEMISTRY IS USED BECAUSE OF THE LOWER CONTRAST OF THE NEGATIVES PROCESSED IN BRAND X.

6. CONCLUSIONS:

A. FROM THE ABOVE, IT WOULD APPEAR THERE ARE MORE ADVANTAGES IN USING THE BRAND X CHEMISTRY; HOWEVER, IT SHOULD BE POINTED OUT THAT THIS TEST MATERIAL WAS RELATIVELY FREE OF ATMOSPHERIC ATTENUATION OF ANY KIND. ADDITIONAL CONTRAST AFFORDED BY THE MX578 PROCESSING MAY BE DESIRABLE ON MISSIONS FLOWN UNDER MORE ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS.

SECRET

-- END OF MESSAGE --

SECRET

Declassification Review by NGA

